RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Strategic Direction 2023 Plan, under the priority of Economic Opportunity and Affordability, identifies the burden of child care costs; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to
7 "improve access to quality child care services near homes and workplaces;" and

8 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted child care 9 programs in the City of Austin such that more than half of the child care programs 10 that accept child care subsidies are not operating; and

WHEREAS, open child care programs are operating with reduced enrollment
 and simultaneously experiencing increased operating costs to comply with health
 and safety protocols; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Area Workforce Solutions' waiting list for child care subsidies was over 2,000 children prior to the pandemic due to a lack of funding to meet the need in the community, and has been growing, reflecting the economic strain that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on our community's families; and

WHEREAS, the child care subsidy for essential workers only covered three
months of care and is now coming to an end for many workers; and

WHEREAS, the shortage of subsidy funds for child care disproportionately impacts children of color whose parents work in sectors that do not allow for remote or work from home options, also increasing risk of COVID-19 exposure; NOW, THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

26	The City Manager is directed to collaborate with APH's Child Care Task Force
27	to report on the state of child care in our community and include actionable
28	recommendations by August 13, 2020 to address the current and imminent child care
29	challenges brought about by COVID-19. Recommendations should include actions
30	that may be taken by our community and local governments, as well as matters on
31	which the City could press for action at the state and federal levels.

32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The Council further directs the City Manager to immediately implement
 recommendations from the report that may be enacted without Council approval.

- 3637 ADOPTED: _____, 2020
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ATTEST: _

Jannette S. Goodall City Clerk